

REMARKS

This is a response to a Final Office Action mailed March 2, 2007. Claims 1, 4, 8, 11 and 14 have been amended. No claims have been added. Claims 13 and 16-19 have been canceled. No new matter has been added to the application. Claims 1-12 and 14-15 remain pending. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.111, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Applicant thanks the Examiner for allowing claims 7, 12 and 15.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-3, 8-10 AND 16-19 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, 8-10, 13 and 16-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,764,644 to Miska et al. (Miska). Claim 13 and 16-19 have been canceled. For each of the remaining rejected claims, they have each been amended to depend from an allowable base claim. As such, claims 1-3, and 8-10 are now allowable because they depend from an allowable base.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 4-6, 11 AND 14 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 4-6, 11 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,855,003 to Ladden. Each of the rejected claims has been amended to depend from an allowable base claim. As such, claims 4-6, 11 and 14 are now allowable because they depend from an allowable base.

REJECTION OF CLAIMS 3 AND 10 UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 3 and 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Miska in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2001/0033643 to Mulvey et al. Each of the rejected claims has been amended to depend from an allowable base claim. As such, claims 3 and 10 are now allowable because they depend from an allowable base.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 1-15. If there are any remaining matters that may be handled by telephone conference, the Examiner is kindly invited to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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